(d) names of other companies in whose favour the orders were placed for the remaining supply alongwith the value period-wise during the last three years;

(e) whether it is also a fact that no order was placed on small scale units;

(f) whether it is also a fact that huge capacity of IDPL is lying idle; and

(g) if so, what were the reasons and considerations on which the public sector unit was ignored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amount spent so far on the execution of HBJ Pipeline

932. SHRIMATI REUNKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the HBJ Pipeline is going on as per the schedule;

(b) how much money has been spent on this project so far; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (c) Work on the HBJ Project is in progress and is expected to be completed by the scheduled date, i.e. July 1989.

(b) An amount of Rs. 768.50 crores has been spent till the end of February 1987.

Tenders for second mine expansion of NLC

933. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Neyveli Lignite Corporation in consultation with its technical consultants of West Germany had set out certain prequalifications for tenderers to its project for second mine expansion scheme including the spreader project;

(b) if so, what are the details of such prequalifications set out by NLC;

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the tenderer did not qualify at all in accordance with the said prequalifications;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and whether it is also a fact that the NLC in order to render support to a particular firm did secure in or about July 1985 another paper about their experience etc.; and

(e) if so, what was the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) In consultation with the technical consulants, NLC had prescribed norms for bidders in the tenders invited for special mining equipment for the second mine expansion scheme. The special mining equipment included Spreaders of 20,000 T|Hr. capacity.

The norms were: (i) two Bucket Wheel Excavators of 700 Litre and 1400 Litre capacity each or of higher capacity; (ii) Mobile Transfer Conveyor of capacity not less than 4000 T|Hr. of transporting hard|abrasive|sticky overburden similar to that found at Neyveli; (iii) Spreaders of capacity of handling not less than 10,000 tonnes/hr. of hard/abrasive/sticky overburden similar to that encountered at Neyveli.

(c) to (e) All the tenderers were qualified to bid. One of the firms gave a clarification subsequently regarding its experience in the manufacture of Spreaders and this clarification was accepted.

Financial assistance to new industries in backward areas

934. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to extend the 'No Industry District' scheme for providing concessional/ Financial assistance to new industries in backward districts of various States; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to narrow regional imbalance in the industrial sector of various industrially backward States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The report of the Inter-Ministerial Committee set up to review and revise the existing incentive scheme for Backward Areas, is under consideration.

Leasing of machinery to small sector by National Small Industrial Development Corporation

935. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Small Industrial Development Corporation has recently started leasing of machinery to small sector; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what differentiation the National Small Industrial Development Corporation have made between hire-purchase of machinery and leasing of machinery to small sector;

(c) whether N.S.I.D.C. are still insisting on collective security from small scale sector in spite of Government's directive not to do so; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Small Industries Corporation has launched the Equipment Leasing Scheme for small scale sector w.e.f. 1st January, 1987. The salient features of the scheme are given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The differentiation between hire-purchase and equipment leasing is given in the enclosed Statement—II (*See* below).

*(c) and (d) In the case of Equipment Leasing, the Lessee is to provide guarantees from responsible persons and men of means to ensure the repayment of Corporation's dues, wherever called upon to do so but in the case of limited Companies, at least two share holders/Directors and in case of Cooperative Society/Trust, two credit worthy office bearers of the Society/Trust acceptable to the NSIC shall stand as guarantors in their individual capacity for the machine(s) to be supplied by the Corporation on the lease agreement basis. In the case of hire-purchase scheme also, no collateral security is asked for supply of machines costing upto Rs. 6 lakhs. Beyond this amount, the parties are required to furnish security in the form of Bank guarantee etc.

Government have not issued any directive.